

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 1 1. A method for sending email from a remote location,
2 comprising:
3 generating an electronic mail message using a personal
4 computing device;
5 transferring the electronic mail to a satellite data
6 communicator configured to provide communication with a low earth
7 orbiting satellite; and
8 sending the electronic message to a low earth orbiting
9 satellite using the satellite data communicator and an antenna coupled to
10 the satellite data communicator.
- 1 2. The method of claim 1, wherein the electronic mail includes
2 a request for weather information.
- 1 3. The method of claim 2, wherein the method further includes
2 receiving a responsive email containing text weather information.
- 1 4. The method of claim 2, wherein the method further includes
2 receiving a responsive email containing graphical weather information.
- 1 5. The method of claim 4, wherein the graphical weather
2 information contains dynamic weather information and not a map.
- 1 6. The method of claim 5, further including the step of applying
2 the received dynamic weather information to a map stored on the
3 personal computing device.
- 1 7. The method of claim 1, wherein the electronic message
2 includes a text message to be converted into a voice message.

1 8. The method of claim 1, wherein the electronic message
2 includes sensor data received from sensors on a transportation mode.

1 9. The method of claim 8, wherein the personal computing
2 device is configured to generate and transmit the electronic mail on a
3 periodic basis.

1 10. The method of claim 1, wherein the electronic message
2 includes a position information obtained from a global positioning satellite.

1 11. The method of claim 10, wherein the personal computing
2 device is configured to generate and transmit the electronic mail on a
3 periodic basis.

1 12. A system for providing information to a user in a remote
2 location, the system comprising:
3 a communicator, the communicator including
4 a personal computing device;
5 a satellite data communicator; and
6 an antenna; and
7 an application server system, wherein the application server
8 system is configured to send and receive email with the communicator
9 through a low earth orbit satellite system.

1 13. The system of claim 12, wherein the communicator is
2 coupled to sensors on a transportation mode.

1 14. The system of claim 13, wherein the communicator is
2 configured to transmit an electronic mail containing information received
3 from the sensors to the application server system.

1 15. The system of claim 14, wherein the electronic mail is
2 transmitted periodically.

1 16. The system of claim 14, wherein the electronic mail is
2 transmitted based on the information received from the sensors.

1 17. The system of claim 12, wherein the application server
2 system is configured to perform an action based on the contents of the
3 electronic mail.

1 18. The system of claim 17, wherein the action includes
2 converting at least a portion of the electronic message into a voice
3 message and transmitting the voice message.

1 19. The system of claim 17, wherein the action includes
2 initiating an emergency response.

1 20. The system of claim 17, wherein the action includes
2 processing position information included in the electronic mail.

1 21. The system of claim 20, wherein processing position
2 information includes forwarding position information in a generated
3 electronic mail to a pre-selected group.

1 22. The system of claim 12, wherein the application server
2 system is configured to automatically compose and transmit an electronic
3 mail to the communicator based upon user defined preferences.

1 23. The system of claim 22, wherein the user defined
2 preferences include a selection of at least one of a news topic, a sports
3 team, and a stock.

1 24. The system of claim 12, wherein the communicator is
2 configured to display an indicia to indicate that an electronic mail has
3 been received from the application server system.

1 25. A system for providing information to a user in a remote
2 location, the system comprising:
3 a communicator means configured to transmit and receive
4 electronic mail over a low-earth orbiting satellite system from a remote
5 location; and
6 an application server means configured to perform an action
7 based upon the contents of an electronic mail message received from the
8 communicator means.

1 26. The system of claim 25, wherein the communicator means is
2 coupled to sensors on a maritime vessel.

1 27. The system of claim 26, wherein the communicator means is
2 configured to transmit an electronic mail containing information received
3 from the sensors to the application server means.

1 28. The system of claim 27, wherein the electronic mail is
2 transmitted according to a defined period.

1 29. The system of claim 27, wherein the electronic mail is
2 transmitted based on the information received from the sensors.

1 30. The system of claim 25, wherein the action includes
2 converting at least a portion of the electronic message into a voice
3 message and transmitting the voice message.

1 31. The system of claim 25, wherein the action includes
2 initiating an emergency response.

1 32. The system of claim 25, wherein the action includes
2 processing position information included in the electronic mail.

1 33. The system of claim 32, wherein processing position
2 information includes forwarding the position information included in the
3 electronic mail in a generated electronic mail.

1 34. The system of claim 25, wherein the application server
2 means is configured to automatically compose and transmit an electronic
3 mail to the communicator means based upon user defined preferences.

1 35. The system of claim 34, wherein the user defined
2 preferences include a selection of at least one of a news topic, a sports
3 team, and a stock.

1 36. The system of claim 25, wherein the communicator means is
2 configured to display an indicia to indicate that an electronic mail has
3 been received from the application server means.